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Submissions open for fire-themed *Whitefish Review*

Whitefish Review is looking to heat things up. In the midst of a polar vortex, the editorial team recently selected “fire” as the theme for issue No. 15.

Submissions for the summer 2014 issue are now being reviewed in art, photography, fiction, non-fiction and poetry. For writers and artists high school level and under, there is a special category.

Submissions are accepted through March 15 via www.whitefishreview.org. Full guidelines are explained on the website.

“Fire is universal. It warms. It bonds people together. It’s hot and unpredictable,” said Brian Schott, founding editor, shivering in his office. “This primal force can be contained or let loose and take on a life of its own. Fire is elemental and beautiful, but there is also a dangerous side. Fire destroys, but this essential force of nature also creates renewal and room for growth.”

Whitefish Review is a nationally-acclaimed, nonprofit journal publishing the distinctive literature, art, and photography of mountain culture. In addition to a diverse mix of stories, interviews and conversations, a 16-page color art and photography section is featured with commentary from the artists and photographers.

Callan Wink (from page 1)

Are you still working as a fishing guide? And if so, does that fuel, or inhibit your writing?

Yes, I still work as a fishing guide. My summers are fairly well consumed with it. As a writer I think it’s good to have a job, especially one outside of academia.

I don’t get much writing done in the summer but getting outside and being active does seem to spur the creative process. I think about writing while I’m on the river and lately I’ve been writing some non-fiction essays dealing with the people I meet through guiding.

Your stories make me think of Annie Proulx – her stark, vivid, unromantic take on the West. What writers resonate with, and inspire you?

I do like Annie Proulx. Also, Cormac McCarthy, Jim Harrison, Michael Ondaatje, James Welch, Karen Russell, Alice Munro. As well as songwriters like Townes van Zandt, James McMurtry and Ryan Bingham.

*You’ve had a lot happen in the last two years: two stories in *The New Yorker*, and the most recent, “*Breatharians*,” receiving its *Story of the Year* for 2012 award, and selected for *Best American Short Stories* 2013. And*

now an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship. How does it feel to be riding this crest of acclaim?

I’ve been very fortunate to get my stories in the hands of people who have steered me in the right direction. Of course I’m excited about the success I’ve had thus far, but writing stories is a strange thing in that I don’t think you ever arrive at a place where you can be comfortable. Essentially, I’ve written a couple decent stories. There’s no guarantee I’ll ever come up with another one.

I’m guessing talent and hard work landed you here. But what’s your assessment?

That, and luck and some really generous writers/teachers at the University of Wyoming. Also, parents who instilled in me a love of books.

How will you use the Fellowship? In other interviews, you’ve mentioned both a short-story collection and a novel.

Yes, I’m chipping away at both currently.

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– Callan Wink



As it turns out, novels are pretty hard to write. I might travel a little with the fellowship money, but mostly I plan to pay my bills, breathe a little easier and write as much as possible.

Livingston, your current hometown, has long been a magnet for writers. Is it the wind, the water, or what?

I’m not totally sure. I moved there for the fishing, not because there were other writers there. I like it because, for a small town, it’s fairly progressive, there are some good bars, the river goes right through town and the mountains are nice to look at.

It’s also affordable. If I moved to Brooklyn to live with all the other struggling writers this fellowship might keep me afloat for a few months. Here I can probably stretch it for a year.

Tracy Linder (from page 1)

She has had numerous solo shows including: OK Harris Works of Art, New York City; Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art in Colorado; the Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis; Gallery 210, St. Louis; Holter Museum of Art, Helena; Dahl Arts Center, Rapid City; Prescott College Art Gallery in Arizona; and Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings.

Linder’s work was included in the inaugural exhibit of the Bozeman Sculpture Park in 2011. She spent six months as the first artist-

in-residence of the Yellowstone Art Museum’s Visible Vault. She was also selected as a resident at the Ucross Foundation in Wyoming.

In 2000, the U.S. General Service Administration’s Art in Architecture program commissioned Linder to create a work of art for the Sweetgrass Border Station on the Montana/Alberta border. Prior to that she taught and served as gallery director at MSU Billings. She received her MFA in 1991 from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



“Blindsided” by Molt artist and MAC member Tracy Linder

NEA awards grants to Montana artists, organizations

NEA Senior Deputy Chairman Joan Shigekawa announced in December that 1,083 grants, totaling \$25.8 million, were awarded to organizations and individuals across the country in the categories of Art Works, Challenge America, and Creative Writing Fellowships.

In Montana, seven grants were funded for a total of \$105,000.

Art Works

Art Works grants support the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. Recipients are:

- **The Alberta Bair Theater in Billings:** \$10,000 to support New Music in the Old West, a concert series with related activities. The series will feature performances by artists such as the string quartet ETHEL, flutist Robert Mirabal, International Guitar Night, and the string quartet Carpe Diem.
- **Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings:** \$20,000 for “Inward, Outward, and Forward: Two Exhibitions Examining Self and Community.” Planned in conjunction with other

50th anniversary activities for the museum, one exhibition will be international in scope, while the other will focus on the region.

• **Archie Bray Foundation in Helena:** \$20,000 for the Visiting Artist Program. During the residencies, ceramists Andy Brayman, Robert Briscoe, Lisa Clague, Chris Gustin, Ayumi Horie, Kristin Kieffer, and Pete Pinnell will receive studio space, housing, honoraria, transportation, and full access to the Bray’s extensive firing facilities and its clay manufacturing and distribution business.

Challenge America

Challenge America Fast-Track grants offer \$10,000 matching grants to support projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics or disability.

• **Billings Symphony Society:** \$10,000 to support Bringing the World to Billings, a concert series and related activities. The project will introduce a geographically and economically isolated audience to faraway places through live orchestral music and extensive community outreach activities associated with each concert.

• **Great Falls Symphony Association:** \$10,000 to support performances and outreach activities featuring clarinetist John Bruce Yeh. In addition to a public performance with orchestra, Yeh will lead master classes for rural high school and college students, work with the Great Falls Symphony Regional Youth Orchestra, participate in a brown-bag lunch concert preview, and perform during an open rehearsal for the community.

• **Glacier Symphony and Chorale in Kalispell:** \$10,000 to support the annual Festival Amadeus. Local residents from a rural community and youth participants from the North Valley Music School will have the opportunity to attend open rehearsals and performances, as well as participate in artist-led master classes.

Creative Writing Fellowships

Creative Writing Fellowships in Prose (fiction or creative nonfiction) enable recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement. Non-matching grants are for \$25,000. This award went to **Callan Wink of Livingston** (see page 1 for an interview).

For details and deadlines, visit arts.gov.

Humanities Montana grants support history, literature

Humanities Montana recently awarded \$21,937.82 to organizations and communities across Montana for programs focused on bringing the humanities to Montana citizens, from book discussion groups and festivals to storytelling series, oral history projects and significant history exhibits.

Recipients include:

- Darby Book Discussion Series, Darby Community Public Library, \$1,000.
- Children’s Festival of the Book, Bozeman Public Library Foundation, \$1,000.
- Open Book 2013-2014, Choteau/Teton Public Library in Choteau, \$800.

- Wonderlust Book Series in Bozeman, \$1,000.
- “What is the Future of the Printed Word?,” Parmly Billings Library Foundation in Billings, \$1,000.
- “Paper Talk,” at Havre-Hill County Library in Havre, \$438.82.
- Winter Storytelling at Travelers’ Rest, Travelers’ Rest Preservation and Heritage Association, Lolo, \$500.
- “Art Matters,” Montana State University College of Arts and Architecture, Bozeman, \$4,315.

- “Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings,” UM Mansfield Library, Missoula, \$4,284.
 - Global Connections International Education Day featuring Academic WorldQuest, World Affairs Council of Montana, Missoula, \$2,800.
 - Montana Preservation Roadshow, Montana Preservation Alliance, Helena, \$5,000.
 - “‘There I Was!’ Smokejumper Oral Histories,” The Steward, Helena, \$800.
- For more information, visit humanities.montana.org.